

Bird Banding Accomplishments 2004

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Abstract

Through the cooperative efforts of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources biologists within the Bureaus of Wildlife Management, Endangered Resources, and Integrated Science Services, a total of 10,089 birds were banded in Wisconsin in 2003. Thirteen species of birds including ducks, geese, swans, eagles, hawks, woodcock, loons, and terns were banded at 150 sites across the state.

Background

For over 40 years the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has organized extensive bird banding operations on state wildlife areas and private property at many locations across the state. Wildlife biologists and technicians within the bureaus of Wildlife Management, Endangered Resources, and Integrated Science Services cooperate to band birds to meet specific research needs and to meet banding quotas assigned by the Mississippi Flyway Council and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Methods

Wild birds were captured using a variety of techniques including night-lighting, bait-trapping, drive trapping, mist-netting, and cannon-netting. Once the age and sex of the captured birds were determined, they were fitted with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service aluminum leg bands. The band numbers, age, and sex of these birds were recorded on field sheets. Colored neck collars were placed on swans to satisfy the requirements of specific research projects. Specially prepared banding schedules were submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Bird Banding Laboratory in Laurel, Maryland for permanent storage. Permanent banding records were also stored at the DNR Field Office at Horicon, Wisconsin.

Results

A total of 10,089 birds of thirteen species were banded in 2004 at 150 locations in Wisconsin. For waterfowl, twenty-five northern pintail ducks were banded at three sites, 4,291 resident Canada geese were banded at 67 sites, 3,844 mallard ducks were banded at twelve sites, and 1,159 wood ducks were banded at 15 sites. Four bald eagles were banded at three sites, fourteen osprey were banded at twelve sites, 130 trumpeter swans were banded at twenty-one sites, nine woodcock were banded at two sites, 105 common loons were banded at 32 sites, and 497 common terns were banded at 2 sites.

Table 1. Banding Summary for 2004.

Age and Sex

Species	Adult			Hatch Year			Local			Total
	F	M	U	F	M	U	F	M	U	
Green-winged Teal		1								1
Black Duck		3		2	4					9
Mallard Duck	442	733		1,351	1,318					3,844
Northern Pintail	7	10		6	2					25
Wood duck	131	413		270	345					1,159
Canada Goose										
Wild banded	369	436					1,749	1,737		4,291
Neck-collared										
Banded & Transported										
Trumpeter Swan			4						126	130
American Woodcock							1	4	4	9
Common Tern			110						387	497
Common Loon	24	19	2						60	105
American Coot			1							1
Bald Eagle							3	1		4
Osprey									14	14
TOTAL	973	1,615	117	1,629	1,669	0	1,753	1,742	591	10,089